3/12/76

Dear Robert,

Thanks for the fat package that came yesterday. I didn't get to go over it until last night, when I separate it by subject to read when I can before filing.

I'm getting along okay, working more than most people still. I can do less physically, but I still travel and speak. (Was to havespoken at Hunter this coming Wednesday but that has been postponed until April 21.) I've had to learn to sleep longer and eliminate some of the work I'd undertaken. Suits coming along okay, some better. Oral arguments in spectro appeal not yet scheduled.

I'm glad when any of your generation are perceptive enough to spot the kind of thing Lane does better than anyone else, meaning worse because it rips minds off. Wow! I had no idea they ripped the pockets as hard!I'm also happy when the nuts like the former Weberman friend expose themselves. These people have done much harm. Motive becomes immaterial. But I think I've said this before. Now, in Congress, you can see the end product: more failure, more futility and reinforcement of the executive lust for increasing authoritarianism.

Playboy is uptight about me. Last year, before they decided on the sick sycophancy of the assassination series- No, year before last, I think -they hired me as their consultant on that series. Then they never consulted me, despite my repeated suggestions, until the cruddy stuff was written, with the first two in type! They went through a terrible crisis on the first two on JFK and are headed in the some way on King. I've torn all of it up. They would have been worse. The King piece is miserable. I've seen the first 27 pages only and analyzed and criticized them. The last hunk is overdue. If it comes today I'll have a helluva day. They are so embarrassed they haven't sent me a copy of any of it...I saw Schweiker the day I learned I have or had phlebitis. I was in agony but I took the entire morning. I left encouraged that he'd be responsible only the next week he was in Penna. with the same crazy stuff. He has stayed out of touch. I've written him only infrequently, with unheeded cautions. I expect him to blame the assassination on Castro, with no basis at all execpt fakes I exposed in 1968 and 1969...Belin had one dose of me,at Vandebilt the Wednesday night before he asked for a new inquiry. That night he'd read only part of Post Mortem. I laid out a case of his own suborning of perjury, hard and to his face, not as the others have written, with the relatively minor aspects but the most basic evidencein his area. The combination did it to him... I agred on principle the let those anthologists-really commercializers - use excerpts from my work without checking it. When I did I was shocked and asked Random House not to use any. Although I later found out their schedule did permit it they said it was too late. These characters have imposed a commercial doctrine on the selections. Scot is in some areas brilliant, in this subject a nut and confabulator. I've had enough contact. He has started some of the sickest stuff, like giving a meaning to Nixon's being in Dallas the day before. ...Crap on Lane's line that Batcheldor had a connection. He was then assistant chief....

Hope this answers your questions. I'm most of the way through the draft of a new book about which I'm saying nothing until it is ready. This, the daily mail and orders and the court cases make a full day every day. But Jim is great on the legal approach and I think it time it will have significance. It has pressured much and is at least partly respondible for the increasing declassifications.

Best to you both,